

# GET TO KNOW THE COVID-19 VACCINE

Information compiled from Indiana University's COVID-19 resources site, [covid.iu.edu](https://covid.iu.edu).

## ELIGIBILITY:

The state of Indiana is continuing to expand eligibility for residents. Check the Indiana State Department of Health website at [ourshot.in.gov](https://ourshot.in.gov) for current eligibility.

Once you meet the state's eligibility criteria, you can schedule your appointment. You do not need to wait for a notification or invitation to schedule your vaccine appointment.



## Every shot counts!

Schedule your appointment online at [ourshot.in.gov](https://ourshot.in.gov) or call 2-1-1.

## KNOW THE FACTS

**What's really true about the COVID-19 vaccine?**

### FACT:

The COVID-19 vaccine was developed using the normal scientific process for vaccine development. The vaccines were tested by all three phases of scientifically rigorous clinical trials, which have shown no major safety concerns.

### FACT:

The COVID-19 vaccine does not interact with your DNA in any way. It is not possible for the vaccine to change your DNA.

### FACT:

There is no live virus in the vaccine. The vaccine cannot give you COVID-19.

### FACT:

While you may feel some side effects after receiving the vaccine, they should be mild and only last for 24 hours. Most commonly, people feel soreness at the injection site like with any other shot. Others may also experience mild fever, mild fatigue, muscle or joint pain, or headache.

### FACT:

There's no evidence that the vaccine causes infertility in women or has increased risks for pregnant or breastfeeding women. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention as well as the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists say the vaccine should not be withheld from pregnant and breastfeeding women.

## WHERE WILL YOU GET THE COVID-19 VACCINE?

Every Indiana county has at least one COVID-19 vaccine site. When you're eligible and schedule your vaccine appointment through [ourshot.in.gov](https://ourshot.in.gov), you will be able to select where you want to receive your vaccine. It is recommended that you plan to receive both vaccine doses at the same location.

## WHAT TO EXPECT WHEN GETTING YOUR VACCINE

Getting your COVID-19 vaccine will be much like getting any other vaccine. You should wear short sleeves or a shirt with sleeves that can easily be rolled up to your upper arm.

You'll receive the injection in your upper arm. Before you leave the vaccine site, you'll be given the appointment date and time for your second dose. It is important to return to the same location for your second dose.

In the 24-48 hours after receiving your vaccine, your arm may feel sore. Other potential side effects will likely be mild, if you have them at all, and may include fever, fatigue, muscle or joint pain, or headache. People most often feel a greater immune response after the second dose.

Remember, if you feel any of the above side effects, this simply means your body is building protection against COVID-19. It's a good thing!

If you develop symptoms more than 48 hours after receiving the vaccine or they last for more than 24 hours, it could be unrelated to the vaccine. Stay home and contact your doctor.

## SO, WHAT WILL CHANGE AFTER YOU'VE BEEN VACCINATED?

- You will be more protected from getting COVID-19.
- You will be helping your community by adding to the total number of people vaccinated.
- You will feel more secure knowing that if you do happen to get COVID-19, you should have a mild case.

## AND, WHAT WILL STAY THE SAME?

Research is ongoing to know if those who have received the COVID-19 vaccine can still pass the virus on to others. The two current vaccines have 94 percent and 95 percent effectiveness rates. This means the chances of you getting COVID-19 are very minimal, but still remain.

Because of these unknowns, as well as the fact that there are new, more contagious strains of the virus that causes COVID-19 and cases continue to rise.

- You will still quarantine if you're a close contact of someone with COVID-19.
- You will still wear a mask, practice physical distancing and wash your hands often.
- You will still work to keep your circle small and not participate in high-risk activities.

**The vaccine is one more (important) tool in our toolbox for fighting the pandemic.**

When you're eligible, schedule your vaccine at **[ourshot.in.gov](https://ourshot.in.gov)**.